

2014-2015

PUBLIC HUNTING LANDS MAP BOOKLET

September 1, 2014 – August 31, 2015



This Map Booklet is provided to each person who purchases either a \$48 Annual Public Hunting (APH) Permit or a \$12 Limited Public Use (LPU) Permit. The Map Booklet specifies the rules and regulations, season dates, and bag limits which govern the use of these lands. A Disclaimer and Waiver of Liability, which applies to the permittee and any minor-aged youth under the permittee's supervision, is contained in this booklet and is an extension of these permits. All previous editions of this booklet are obsolete.

Algunas secciones de este Folleto de Mapas estarán disponibles en la página de Internet del Departamento de Parques y Vida Silvestre de Texas. Por favor visite la página de Cacería Pública para más información sobre normas, reglamentos y permisos: www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/public

Acknowledgments

The Public Hunting Lands Program would not be possible without the support and confidence of many people. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department would like to extend a special thanks to many groups whereby without their contributions of land donations, time and money, this Public Hunting Program would not be available.

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Purchasers of Public Hunting Permits
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WELCOME TO PUBLIC HUNTS BY ANNUAL PUBLIC HUNTING PERMIT

Since 1987, the Annual Public Hunting (APH) Permit has offered the opportunity to participate in a variety of inexpensive, family oriented outdoor recreational activities including hunting for a multitude of wildlife species, fishing, nature watching, camping and other activities.

The Public Hunting Program includes almost 900,000 acres located throughout Texas. This Map Booklet contains information on property owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) as well as acreage leased by the department from other state and federal agencies, forest products industries, and other cooperating private landowners. The Public Dove and Small Game Hunting Areas are included in this booklet.

Access is provided by two types of annual permits: the \$48 Annual Public Hunting (APH) Permit which allows full privileges including hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and other recreational uses and the \$12 Limited Public Use (LPU) Permit which also provides access for all other recreational activities except hunting. See the schedule for recreational use on pages 147-149.

IMPORTANT CHANGES FOR 2014

- In addition to traditional Annual Public Hunting (APH) Postcard Selection Hunts offered through the walk-in hunting program, new E-Postcard hunts are available through the new Public Hunt Drawing System. There are no application or permit fees to apply for the E-Postcard hunts, but adults selected for the hunts are required to purchase an Annual Public Hunting Permit. General, youth-only and youth/adult categories are available.
- The U.S. Forest Service offers a limited number of permits to hunt antler-less deer during the general open season on Alabama Creek WMA, Bannister WMA, Moore Plantation WMA and Sam Houston National Forest WMA. **Hunters wishing to apply for antlerless permits must apply online at www.tpwd.texas.gov/drawn hunts by September 30, 2014.** Only one application per hunter allowed. Adult and youth permits are available. There will be a drawing in mid-October to select a limited number of antlerless deer permits. Only winners will be notified. Postcards will no longer be accepted by the U.S. Forest Service or TPWD Austin Headquarters.

SPECIAL REMINDERS

IMPORTANT: For the most up-to-date information on changes to the public hunt schedule or access and availability of department public lands, sign up for e-mail updates or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TPWDhunt. Individuals can also call 800/792-1112 menu 5 (Wildlife), selection 1 (Wildlife Information).

- **Hunting License:** A hunting license and any required stamp endorsements are required to hunt any public hunting lands.
- **Dogs:** Dogs may be used for hunting squirrel, rabbits, hares, furbearing animals, predatory animals, and game birds (other than turkey) on most units during the open seasons. See the Prohibited Acts section for rules and regulations concerning the use of dogs and area maps for further restrictions concerning the use of dogs.
- **Maps:** The maps in this Map Booklet and on the department's website are the only maps of public hunting lands that TPWD provides indicating hunting areas and designated roads open to permit holders. Maps in this publication can also be found at the TPWD website on the Public Hunting web page. Caution, maps purchased from other sources (U.S. Forest Service, COE, etc.) may include private roads that are not accessible by permit holders. Study the maps closely to avoid trespassing on private property or private roads when accessing, using or leaving public hunting lands. Many public hunting maps have aerial formats and GPS coordinates. These enhanced maps can be found online at the department's web pages at www.tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/hunt/public/lands/maps
- **Hunting Seasons:** In most cases, public hunting units follow statewide seasons but there are exceptions. Check the individual unit maps closely for season dates, bag limits, closure dates, special regulations, or restricted access during the seasons. For more information, refer to the legal game information" section on page ix of this booklet.
- **Whooping Cranes:** This symbol has been placed on maps of certain public hunting areas where whooping cranes have been seen. Public hunters need to be aware that whooping cranes might be present in or fly through these public hunting areas. Texas is the wintering location for the last wild whooping crane population in the world. Traditionally, these endangered birds have wintered in wetlands near



Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Aransas County; however, in recent years, whooping cranes have also wintered in other Texas counties. For more information on whooping crane identification, visit www.tpwd.texas.gov/whoopingcranes. There are heavy fines for accidental and/or intentional shooting of whooping cranes, so “be sure before you shoot!”

- **On-site Registration:** Many units in this booklet require on-site registration (OSR) for entry or participation in certain activities. OSR involves signing in and depositing Part A of the OSR form at a registration station immediately upon arrival at the unit and depositing Part B of the OSR form at the sign in area when leaving the unit. OSR forms are provided at the registration station, in the back of this booklet, and on the website.
- **Horses and Vehicles:** The use of horses, ATVs, off-highway vehicles, off-road vehicles, and airboats on public hunting lands is generally prohibited. However, the use of ATVs and off-highway vehicles on public land is, in most cases, allowed for disabled hunters and those assisting disabled hunters. A disabled person is defined as a paraplegic or a person possessing the disabled parking placard or license plate on a registered vehicle. Some areas do not allow for vehicle use under any circumstances. Possession of the off-highway vehicle decal does not authorize any person to enter public land or use an off-highway vehicle on public land if such entry or use is prohibited. There are no special provisions or exemptions for disabled persons to use ATVs or off-highway vehicles on U.S. Forest Service land except on designated roads. See the Prohibited Acts on pages xi-xii and USFS restrictions on pages xiii-xiv for general rules that are in effect on these units.
- **Hunter Use Survey:** Located on the inside back cover of this booklet is a Public Use Scorecard for you to log your hunting information. A random sample of hunters will be selected and mailed a survey to complete and return to TPWD. You will be asked information relative to days of use and game harvested by you on individual units. This information is very important to assist with monitoring populations, harvest, and evaluating use of the areas. If you receive a survey, please take the time to complete the survey and return it to TPWD. Your participation is greatly appreciated.
- **Litter:** Please pick up all trash including shotgun hulls and boxes.

DISCLAIMER OF LIABILITY AND RELEASE

The Annual Public Hunting permit and/or the Limited Public Use permit allows entry upon designated public hunting lands for hunting and other approved outdoor recreational activities. These designated public hunting lands are owned by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department or are leased by Texas Parks and Wildlife from private landowners. Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and/or the private landowners may not know what conditions exist upon the designated public hunting lands, the number or proficiency of other participating hunters or other users thereon and, as such, they do not make any warranty or representation of any type, kind or character whatsoever as to conditions existing or that may hereafter exist upon the designated public hunting lands or as to the suitability or non-suitability of the designated public hunting lands for hunting and/or other approved outdoor recreational activities. Any person entering upon the designated public hunting lands does so at their own risk and acknowledges, recognizes and agrees that **all hunting and other approved outdoor recreational activities are potentially dangerous** in part because of the use of firearms by hunters of varying degrees of proficiency and conditions of nature.

In consideration of being permitted to access the designated public hunting lands for hunting and other approved outdoor recreational activities, I, the permittee, and as the authorized supervising adult of any accompanying minor, personally assume all risks associated with entering the designated public hunting lands, whether foreseen or unforeseen, and unconditionally release and hold harmless Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, its commissioners, directors, officers, employees, volunteers, agents and representatives, and any participating private landowners, their respective directors, officers, employees, agents, representatives, members, partners, and affiliates, from and against any and all liabilities, costs, expenses, claims, and damages for which Texas Parks and Wildlife and/or any participating private landowner might otherwise become liable by reason of any accidents, or injuries to or death of any persons, or damage to property, or both, in any manner arising or resulting from, caused by, connected with or related to the presence of any such person upon the designated public hunting land, regardless of how, where, or when such injury, death or damage occurs even if caused by the negligence of Texas Parks and Wildlife Department or any participating private landowner.

I, the permittee, have read this release and understand all its terms. I understand that by engaging in any activity authorized under the Annual Public Hunting permit and/or the Limited Public Use permit, I execute this release voluntarily with full knowledge of its significance.